

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 09/587,629  
Applicant: Rono James Mathieson  
Filed: June 5, 2000  
Group #: 2174  
Examiner: Sy D. Luu

Confirmation Number: 7733

Docket No: SLA.0155

Customer No: 23855

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MS RCE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

AUG 29 2003

Technology Center 2100

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT IN SUPPORT OF RCE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**  
**Introductory Comments**

In response to the Office Action dated May 12, 2003, please amend the above-identified Application as follows:

**Amendment to the Specification** begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendment to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4, of this paper.

**Amendment to the Drawings:** There are no amendments to the drawings

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.

An **Appendix** is not included.

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**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

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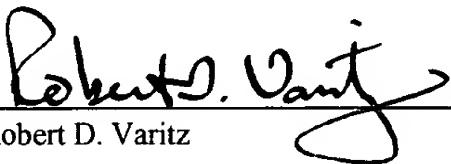
I hereby certify that the attached PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT IN SUPPORT OF RCE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111, Request for a one month extension and a PTO-2038 credit card authorization form in the amount of \$860.00 are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to:

MS RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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Robert D. Varitz